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THE
BATH CONTEST: 4

Being a COLLECTION of all the
PAPERS, ADVERTISEMENTS, &c.

Published BEFORE and SINCE
The DEATH of Mr. DERRICK,
BY THE
CANDIDATES
For the OFFICE of
MASTER of the CEREMONIES,
And their FRIENDS,
DIGESTED IN REGULAR ORDER.

*St. George's Race with stout St. Patrick's vies;
Warm as the Contest, noble is the Prize,
The Crown of Bath!—What Empire can compare
With that o'er Men of Taste, and Ladies fair?*

BATH:

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THE BATH CONTEST

The Death of Mr. Derrick.

BRITISH MUSEUM



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The BATH CONTEST, &c.

More than three Weeks before Mr. DERRICK's Death, great Interest was made for a Succession to his Monarchy; and on the 16th of March the following Address from Mr. CHARLES JONES was publicly handed about at the Rooms and Coffee-Houses.

To the NOBILITY and GENTRY at BATH.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

UPON the Report of the Death of SAMUEL DERRICK, Esq; Master of the Ceremonies at Bath, my noble Friends were so very kind as to honour me with the following List of their Names under their own Hands; which I will produce, upon Demand, to any one who has the least Pretension to require a Sight of them; in which they recommend me as a Person qualified to succeed him: And should I be so fortunate as to have my Attempt crowned with Success, I most solemnly protest and declare, that I will bid adieu to Play; and, by a determined Application to the Duties of my Office, endeavour to promote every Thing that may be agreeable to the Company, consistent with the Laws of my Country, my Respect to the worthy Magistrates of the very loyal and elegant City of Bath, the Interest of the Masters of the Long Rooms, and

and the Welfare of each Inhabitant, not forgetting
my Duty and Gratitude to my Constituents.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, your most obedient,

And most sincerely devoted humble Servant,

London, March 14, 1769. CHARLES JONES.

HER Grace the Duchess of Northumberland	Earl Gower
Her Grace of Leeds	Lord Viscount Weymouth
Her Grace of Hamilton	Richard Cox, Esq;
Her Grace of Ancaſter	George James Williams, Esq;
Lady Scarſdale	Lord Byron
Miss Murray	Lady Byron
His Grace of Northumberland	Earl of Hillsborough
The Earl of Dartmouth	Counteſs of Hillsborough
The Earl of Delawar	John Pownall, Esq;
The Hon. Charles Fitzroy	Lord Montfort
His Grace of Ancaſter	Lord Clive
His Grace of Queensberry & Dover	Lady Clive
His Grace of Grafton	William Drake, Esq;
The Earl of Mexborough	His Grace of Newcastle
The Hon. Lady Stanhope	Lord Viſcount Wenman
Sir F. B. Delaval, K. B.	Francis Page, Esq;
Francis Reynolds, Esq;	Thomas Craven, Esq;
The Counteſs of Mexborough	Lord B. Bertie
Lady Codrington	Sir John H. Delaval, Esq;
Thomas Delaval, Esq;	Lady Delaval
Mrs. Delaval	Edward Delaval, Esq;
Mrs. Harcourt	Haughton James, Esq;
John Dobbins, Esq;	Lord Rigot
Edmund Moreton Pleydell, Esq;	Lord Beaulieu
Joſhua Iremonger, Esq;	Charles Turner, Esq;
The Earl of Carlile	Capt. Fauquier
The Earl of Clanbraſſil	Charles Boone, Esq;
The Earl of March and Ruglen	Sir Edward Baynton, Bart.
Sir William Muſgrave, Bart.	Earl Waldegrave
George Auguſtus Selwyn, Esq;	James Jeffreys, Esq;
Sir T. Charles Bunbury, Bart.	The Counteſs of Hertford
Henry Bunbury, Esq;	The Earl of Eſſex
Lord Abergawenny	William Fauquier, Esq;
Lady Downing	Thomas Boone, Esq;
Capt. Bowyer	Hon. H. F. Thynne
Capt. Steele	Sir Charles Egerton, Knt.
The Earl of Coventry	William Egerton, Esq;
The Earl of Beſſborough	The Marquis of Granby
Lieut. Gen. Elliſon	Rose Fuller, Esq;
The Earl of Pomfret	Hon. Stephen Fox
	Richard Clive, Esq;

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Henry Revely, Esq;	Edward Kynaston, Esq;
His Grace of Chaudes	Sir John Palmer, Bart.
Lord Bolton	Francis Bowyer, Esq;
James Harris, Esq;	George Medley, Esq;
The Rt. Hon. J. Stuart Mackenzie	The Earl of Barrymore
Lord North	N. Hanmer, Esq;
The Hon. James Brudenell	Rowland Holt, Esq;
Sir James Peachy, Bart.	Thomas Goddard, Esq;
William Fielding, Esq;	The Earl of Rochford
John Parsons, Esq;	The Hon. R. S. Nassau
The Countess of Suffex	The Rev. Mr. Fountaine
William Rice, Esq;	Earl Poulett
William Skrine, Esq;	Sir C. K. Tynne, Bart.
Lord Masham	Lady Tynne
J. Scott, Esq;	Lady C. Stanhope
Sir James Calder, Bart.	Sir James Lowthier, Bart.
Col. Boyd	The Right Hon. George Onslow
Sir Charles Frederick, K. B.	Mrs. Onslow
Edwin Francis Stanhope, Esq;	Capt. Jeffreys
Sir George Warren, K. B.	Sir Matth. Fetherstonhaugh, Bart.
The Earl of Litchfield	Sir James Long, Bart.
The Rt. Hon. H. S. Conway	Sir John Hynde Cotton, Bart.
Lord Viscount Say and Sele	Major Maine, for himself and the
Lady Viscountess of Galway	Countess of Charleville
Col. Desaguliers	Sir Richard Glynn, Bart.
Sir Robert Rich, Bart.	The Right Hon. John Shelley
George Cook, Esq;	The Countess of Northampton
Lord Viscount Molyneux, for	Henry Fownes Luttrell, Esq;
himself and Lady Molyneux	M. Fownes Luttrell, Esq;
Crisp Molyneux, Esq;	The Marquis of Carnarvon
Thomas Orby Hunter, Esq;	Lord Le Despencer
His Grace of Manchester	Sir William Breton, Knt.
Matthew Ridley, Esq;	Thomas Apreece, Esq;
Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart.	The Hon. A. Poulett
Mr. Collingwood	Sir George Bridges Rodney, Bart.
Mr. Wilkinson	Richard Bull, Esq;
Lord Viscount Wentworth	John Tempest, Esq;
Lord Mount-Stuart	The Hon. Thomas Howard
John Holroyd, Esq;	P. Blake, Esq;
Mr. Stanton	The Earl of Radnor
Francis Herne, Esq;	George Albby, Esq;
Richard Fuller, Esq;	Christopher Blake, Esq;
George Jennings, Esq;	Lord Viscount Falmouth
Sir Francis Vincent, Bart.	The Earl of Harrington
Earl of Egmont	John Williams, Esq;
Lord Coleraine	Thomas Neate, Esq;
The Countess of Harrington	Capt. Fraine
His Grace of Marlborough	Arthur Blake, Esq;
Richard Trevor, Esq;	Lord Tyrawly
Sir John Trevelyan, Bart.	Mr. Adolphus
Lady Trevelyan	Thomas Delaval, Esq;
Richard Lowndes, Esq;	Sir Thomas Dyke Ackland, Bart.



BATH, March 16, 1769.

To the LADIES and GENTLEMEN

Residing at or resorting to BATH.

AS Mr. DERRICK, the present Master of the Ceremonies, now lies at the Point of Death, and in all Probability a Vacancy for that Employment will very soon happen, I beg to offer a few Thoughts to your Consideration previous to the Election of a Person to fill that Office.

It has been always allowed, that whenever a Vacancy did happen, the SUBSCRIBERS to the BALLS were the Persons who should vote for a new MASTER of the CEREMONIES, and that no Person should be permitted to vote by *Proxy*: This is certainly a Rule too good to be ever broke through.

It has been likewise always allowed, that any Gentleman or Lady who was at Bath might insert in the Subscription-Book the Name or Names of any of their Friends, who had commissioned them so to do, and to pay the Two Guineas for such Person accordingly: For No one has a Right to ask *why*? If I am in London or Bristol, and intend to be in Bath a Week or a Month hence, I may empower a Friend to subscribe for me before I come. I could mention many Precedents, but will only remind the Company that Mr. *Derrick*, about two Years ago, wrote in the Books the Names of near Twenty of the first Nobility and Gentry of this Kingdom (who were not here) to carry a Point then in Agitation; and on being asked, *Why he did so*?

so? it was answered unanimously by his Adherents, That if the Money was paid, (which by the By was not then done) no Person had a Right to ask a Question about it.

These Points being certain, I cannot but think the Proceedings of Mr. B——N's Friends in the Rooms last Night very extraordinary; and which I will relate in as few Words as I can. Mr. *Plomer*, who (without setting forth his particular good Qualities) is universally allowed to be an *English Gentleman* of unexceptionable good Character, has for some Time past offered himself in the most modest Manner to succeed Mr. *Derrick*, should his Death take Place as is apprehended.——Many respectable Gentlemen of Fashion and Fortune, who reside here, espoused his Cause, as well as Numbers of his Friends in Bristol, where he has officiated as Master of the Ceremonies for some Time past.——Those of Bristol, willing to shew their Zeal for a worthy Man, wrote to several Gentlemen here, and desired them to put their Names down in the Book and pay their Subscription-Money, to entitle them to a Vote in Person at the Time of Election: This was attempted to be done; but the Friends of Mr. B——N treated it and the Names with an Indignity unworthy the Character of well-bred Gentlemen; and though the Money was paid for every Name, they came in a Body, and, *Vi & Arms*, seized the Book, and positively declared, no Man had a Right to insert another's Name, and that no further Subscription should be taken in that Manner. What Right they had to make such a Law, no one can tell.

I hope I need not point out to the Ladies and Gentlemen who are *Natives of England*, that if even

two Persons of *equal* good Character are in their Option, how much more the One who is a *worthy Countryman* should claim their Preference over the Other, than I need point out, why a Man would endeavour to provide for *his own Children* before those of a *Stranger*. I am unacquainted with Mr. B——N's private Character, and for ought I know he may have the highest Degree of Merit; of this you will be the best Judges: But, allowing he is so, the single Question you have to debate upon is, Not whether Mr. B——N or Mr. *Plomer* shall be the Ruler of your Diversions, but whether you would chuse to keep the Staff in your own Hands, or let it be forcibly wrested from you, and BATH be absolutely governed by the transient Visitors from another Nation.

N. B. LADIES are equally entitled to a Vote with the GENTLEMEN.

BATH, March 18, 1769.

THE Ladies and Gentlemen, Subscribers to the Balls, in the Interest of Mr. *Plomer*, are humbly requested to meet on *Monday* next the 20th Instant, at One o'Clock, in the *Town-Hall*.

From The BATH and BRISTOL CHRONICLE.

March 28.

AT the general Meeting of Mr. *Plomer's* Friends assembled at the *Town-Hall* on *Monday* the 20th Instant, it was the unanimous Opinion of the Company, that Mr. *Plomer* had conducted himself during his Canvass with that Propriety, Decency, and Moderation, which became a Gentleman; that

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after the most strict Scrutiny they thought him a Person very well qualified to conduct the Ceremonies of the *Great Assembly* established in this City, in Consequence of which they promised him their united Assistance, and recommended him to the Friendship of the Nobility and Gentry resorting to this Place. It was also resolved that Three Days Notice was the shortest that would be expected by the Company, to render any Meeting valid or respectful; which Notice should be given in the most public Manner possible.

AN ADDRESS to the PUBLIC.

ON the 15th of this Month, on the Report of Mr. DERRICK's being at the Point of Death, the Names of many Persons, at that Time absent from Bath, were thrown into the Subscription List, in Order (as was evident) to determine the future Election of a MASTER of the CEREMONIES, and to preclude and overbear the Sentiments of the Company then present.

Many Gentlemen, Eye-Witnesses of this Transaction, and justly resenting the Unfairness of such a Proceeding, proposed to the Company then present to have a Meeting the next Day at Noon at Mr. *Simpson's Room*, judging that Interval a sufficient Notice to the Residents in Bath, and thinking it necessary, by this decisive Measure, to prevent a Mode of Election, founded in Violence, and supported by Arts unworthy of a Society of Gentlemen.

A Meeting was in Consequence held the next Day of all the Ladies and Gentlemen, who, on this public Notice, chose to attend; and the following Resolutions were voted and signed by a very great Majority of all the Subscribers:

First, That those Persons whose Names were thrown into the List (they being absent from Bath) were not duly qualified to be Electors of a Master of the Ceremonies; and that they should not be allowed as such.

Secondly, That Mr. BRERETON should be appointed Coadjutor to Mr. DERRICK during his Illness; which was agreed to accordingly.

And Thirdly, That Mr. BRERETON should be appointed Successor to Mr. DERRICK, in Case of his Death.

N. B. The Names thrown into the Ball List on the 15th were about *Thirty*; the Number has since been increased to more than *Seventy*; Four-fifths of whom have not as yet made their Appearance, nor can they be assembled, as hath been confessed in Print, on less than Three Days Notice.—Let the Public judge, whether such Persons can have a Right to impose a Master of the Ceremonies on the Residents in Bath?

March the 25th, 1769.

To the NOBILITY and GENTRY
Residing at or resorting to BATH.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

AN Address having been handed to the Public last Saturday, justifying the Proceedings of Mr. B——n's Party, I think proper to make a few Observations on so modest and sensible a Proceeding; and I will do it in as few Words as the Nature of the Subject will admit; hoping thereby to undeceive those Ladies and Gentlemen *already* here, who have vainly deluded themselves with Notions of their own Importance, and to prepare the Minds of
the

the rest of the Company, and of such Strangers a may arrive, with proper Ideas of the Consequence and Dignity due to the *present reigning Monarch*, and his sagacious Counsellors.

The Address says, "On the Report of Mr. Der-
"rick's being at the Point of Death, the Names of
"many Persons, at that Time absent from Bath,
"were thrown into the Subscription List, in Order
"(as was evident) to determine the future Election
"of a Master of the Ceremonies, and to preclude
"and overbear the Sentiments of the Company
"then present."

All the World must allow it is *extremely reasonable*, that a few Partisans of Mr. B——N, who were present, should make such Laws for the Company resorting here, as they might think proper!—And it is very absurd to suppose, that any Gentleman, either of Bristol, any Part of this County, or indeed of any other Part of England, should be desirous of having a Vote in electing a Master of the Ceremonies for a Place which they and their Families frequent;—and that it is extremely weak, and presumptuous in them, to desire a Gentleman should be placed in that Office of whom they have a good Opinion, and who is to be the Guardian of the young People of both Sexes, to keep them out of the Hands of Gamblers and Fortune-Hunters:—It is so very overbearing and insolent to aim at so desirable an Object, that I blush for my Countrymen's attempting it!

The second Paragraph of the Address says, that
"Many Gentlemen, Eye-Witnesses of this Trans-
"action, and justly resenting the Unfairness of such
"a Proceeding,"—[I presume he means the Un-
fairness of *any* English Gentlemen's desiring their

Friends to subscribe for them, that they might be intitled to a Vote in *Person*, in a Matter of such Consequence to themselves and Families,] “proposed
 “to the Company then present to have a Meeting
 “the next Day at Noon at Mr. *Simpson's Room*,
 “judging that Interval a sufficient Notice to the
 “Residents in Bath, and thinking it necessary, by
 “this decisive Measure, to prevent a Mode of Election, founded in Violence, and supported by
 “Arts unworthy of a Society of Gentlemen.”

Surely it requires no small Degree of *Effrontery* to declare so openly to the World the Resolutions of the Addresser's Party to carry their laudable Schemes into Execution *Vi & Armis*; he tells you, that many Gentlemen *then* present did so and so, and resented the Proceeding, (who doubts it? so they would any Thing else if it had not agreed with their own Sentiments) and that they proposed at Ten o'Clock at Night a Meeting for the next Day, (which *they say* was Notice enough) to prevent in a *very decisive Manner* a Mode of Election *they* did not approve of.——I cou'd run out this Paragraph into many Observations on the great Modesty of the Party, Respect to the Nobility and Gentry who reside at and resort hither, and expatiate largely on the Obligations due from the Public for this very genteel Proceeding; but I leave them to every Reader's own Penetration.——*Blush, if it be possible!*

He then tells us, a Meeting was held accordingly, and the following *Resolutions* (pray Ladies and Gentlemen observe that!) were agreed to by a very great Majority:—Who doubts it, when they were all on one Side?

First, That those Persons whose Names were
 “thrown into the List (they being absent from Bath)
 “were

“were not duly qualified to be Electors of a Master of the Ceremonies;” and then by one bold Declaration do pronounce, “that they should not be allowed as such.”

So, Ladies and Gentlemen, there is your Quiescent: Write to who you please, subscribe in what Manner you please, or interest yourselves as you please, King B——N and his Council have passed a Law, that you shall *not be allowed to vote*;—therefore, (to speak in Royal Language) demean yourselves as our dutiful Subjects peaceably and quietly, on Pain of our Royal Displeasure if you behave otherwise.

“Secondly, That Mr. B——N should be appointed Coadjutor, alias Coagitur; to Mr. *Derrick* during his Illness; which was agreed to accordingly.”

“And Thirdly, That Mr. B——N should be appointed”—(or in other Words, that You who are to vote at the Election shall be obliged to chuse him)—“Successor to Mr. *Derrick*, in Case of his Death.” Pray Gentlemen add, *Given at our Court at Bath, this 25th Day of March, in the Year of our Lord 1769, and in the first Year of our Coagiturship.*

O—— }
W—— } SECRETARIES.

Can any Person read this Narrative of their Proceedings but with the utmost Ridicule? To be serious; Can any Person read of such daring *Presumption*, but with the most glowing Resentment? Let it then stir up to Union! Let us, hand in hand, assert our Rights, and never suffer ourselves to be thus trodden under Foot: *They* best can tell what sinister Methods have been used to increase the Number of Votes, and whether it is acting like Gentlemen to raise a Fund, and pay the Subscription for those

those who will vote as they are bid: [I say nothing to such Persons as will be made this mean Use of, but leave *them* to their own honourable Reflections.] These, *my Liege!* and ye *his noble Counsellors!* are miserable Efforts, and, depend on it, the Particulars shall be publicly known.—We are not obliged to fly to such an Aid. Every Gentleman and Lady who has, or intends to subscribe for Mr. PLOMER, can and will declare, in the most solemn Manner, that they pay their *own* Money; and, whatever Stigma the Coadjutor's Party may affix to the Act, we will never equivocate about our being *occasional* Voters, but will gloriously assert our determined Purpose to get the better of a Faction.

BATH, March 27, 1769.

P. S. The principal Ladies and Gentlemen *now* at Bath thought it proper to postpone the Election of a New Master of the Ceremonies, to three Days after Mr. *Derrick's* Death, and published their Opinions accordingly;—for, as that Office is of so much Consequence to all the Company of the Kingdom, who frequent Bath, or send their Sons and Daughters hither, they thought it but reasonable to apprize them of it, that they might, if they thought fit, attend here, and proceed to the Choice of such a Gentleman whose Character they could confide in, as a proper Guardian to such unwary Youth as might otherwise be subject to fatal Snares, and Inconveniencies of the most alarming and dangerous Nature.

BATH, March 27, 1769.

SEVERAL Gentlemen having last Night taken the Liberty to declare, that they would not suffer any other Lady or Gentleman who should sub-

scribe after that Time; (Ten o'Clock at Night) to vote hereafter for a Master of the Ceremonies; and others having also declared, they would prevent any Lady or Gentleman, who should subscribe *after* the Death of Mr. *Derrick*, from voting for a Master of the Ceremonies: This Notice is given to such Ladies and Gentlemen who have declared their Resolution to subscribe to the Balls *after* the Death of Mr. *Derrick*, and such others as may be of the same Sentiments, not to subscribe until a Vacancy shall happen, that they may take such Measures as they may judge proper to support their Right to subscribe, at what Time they shall think fit, without the Licence of any Dictator whatsoever. And it is submitted to the Consideration of the Company, if it would not be the most candid and fair Method, not to proceed to an Election of a Master of the Ceremonies until three Days after a Vacancy shall happen; and if such a Resolution being adhered to, would not conduce to preserve good Order, Decency, and good Humour, amongst the Company, and of Course prevent Discord, Ill-humour, and Division; where, as at the Court of *Comus*, all should be Mirth and Jollity.

WHEREAS the Company now at Bath, are in great Agitation on Account of settling the Succession to the Mastership of the Ceremonies, which is *hourly* expected to become vacant by the Death of Mr. *Derrick*; and claim to *themselves* a Right of electing and nominating a future Successor; I do, in Behalf of a very considerable Number of the most respectable Persons in *this Kingdom*, beg Leave to enter a *Protest* against such Proceedings; and

and *appeal to the Lord Chamberlain of his Majesty's Household, in whom alone the Nomination of a Director, or Superintendant of all Public Diversions, throughout His Majesty's Realms and Dominions, is by Virtue of his Office known to be invested.*

BATH, March 27, 1769.

CHARLES JONES.

To the LADIES and GENTLEMEN

Subscribers to the Public Rooms at BATH.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

AS soon as I heard of Mr. *Derrick's* Illness, and that he was past all Hopes of Recovery, I came to Bath with an Intention to offer myself a Candidate to succeed him as Master of the Ceremonies, in Case of his Decease: But as I find there are already Candidates for that Employment, and that the Company seem very strenuous for them, I do decline my Intention of standing a Candidate; as I should be much concerned to be the Cause of making any Addition to the present Commotions; but in Case of any future Vacancy, I do solicit the Favour of your Votes and Interest, being determined to make it my Study to execute the Office with the strictest Honour and Impartiality, and my best Endeavours to give general Satisfaction.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

BATH, March 27, 1769.

WILLIAM WADE,

Captain in the late 73^d Regiment, and Nephew
to the late Field Marshal *Wade*.

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BATH, March 27, 1769.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

IT is insisted upon by some of Mr. *Plomer's* Friends that he should communicate to you an extraordinary Proposal made to him this Morning, by one of Mr. *Brereton's* Friends, and which (he thinks in Gratitude to those Ladies and Gentlemen in particular who have honoured him with their Support, and as in Respect to the Company in general he ought to do) he has refused to comply with. The Proposal was, that, in Case Mr. *Plomer* would give up his Pretensions to Mr. *Brereton*, there would be Five Hundred Pounds of the Subscription, over and above what would defray the Expences of the Season, and that Mr. *Brereton* should secure him One Hundred Pounds per Annum *more*, to be paid him quarterly; adding, that it would be his best Way to accept of it, for, should he have the Majority of Voices, he would nevertheless meet with many very disagreeable Events, to make his Office irksome to him.

BATH, March 28, 1769.

This Morning about Five o'Clock died, Samuel Derrick, Esq; Master of the Ceremonies in this City, in the 46th Year of his Age.

BATH, March 28, 1769.

THE Ladies and Gentlemen, Subscribers to the Balls, are humbly requested to meet this Day at One o'Clock in *Gyde's Rooms*, to appoint a Master of the Ceremonies in Place of Mr. *Derrick*, who is now dead; which is thought absolutely necessary, this being Ball Night.

MR. *Plomer's* Friends are desired to meet at the *Town-Hall*, at half after Eleven o'Clock this Day, being *March 28th, 1769.*

Town-Hall, Bath, March 28, 1769.

PUBLIC Notice is hereby given, That the Election for a Master of the Ceremonies, in the Room of the late Mr. *Derrick*, will come on, at *Simpson's Room*, on *Friday* the 31st Instant at Twelve o'Clock in the Forenoon.

BATH, March 28, 1769.

THIS is to give Notice, That the Election for a Master of the Ceremonies for this City, is fixed for *Friday* next, at Twelve o'Clock, at Mr. *Cyde's Room.*

TWO Advertisements having appeared in Print this Day, one calling a Meeting for the Election of a Master of the Ceremonies at *Simpson's Room*, and another for the same Purpose at *Cyde's Room*, on *Friday* next; This is to give Notice, that the said Meeting will be held at *Simpson's*, and not at *Cyde's*, which *last* was published by Mistake.

Tuesday Evening, 28th March.

IT is the Opinion of the Ladies and Gentlemen met at the *Town-Hall* of the City of *Bath*, on the 28th of *March 1769*, that a Resolution of the Friends of Mr. *Plomer*, published in the *Bath and Bristol Chronicle* of the 23d Instant, in the following Words, "That three Days Notice was the shortest that would

"be

“ he expected by the Company, to render any Meeting for the Election of a Master of the Ceremonies valid,” should be strictly adhered to.

It is the Opinion of this Assembly, that Sir *John More*, Mr. *Coxe*, and Capt. *Sawyer*, communicate the above Resolution to the Ladies and Gentlemen assembling and assembled this Day at *Gyde's Room*; and that they do, in the Names of this Meeting, *protest* against any Election before the Expiration of three Days.

It is the Opinion of the present Meeting, that the Ladies and Gentlemen assembled at *Gyde's Room*, in proceeding to the immediate Election of a Master of the Ceremonies, notwithstanding the above Message so communicated, have invaded their Rights as Subscribers to the Balls.

And it is the Opinion of this Meeting, that *Friday* next at Twelve o'Clock be appointed for the Election of a Master of the Ceremonies at *Simpson's Rooms*, and that public Notice be given of such Election.

CLARE, *in the* CHAIR.

A LETTER from the CITIZENS of BRISTOL
TO THE
NOBILITY and GENTRY residing in BATH.

Messrs.

AS by your present and former Dissentions in the Choice of a Master of the Ceremonies you have proved yourselves to be unacquainted with Business, and totally unqualified to act for yourselves: We (the under-named Subscribers to the Balls at Bath) your Neighbours and Brethren, propose to take upon us the Management of the ap-
D
proaching

proaching Election, well knowing, that Men of Rank and Fortune are the worst Judges in the World of their own Affairs, and that the Persons the most interested in Events are, of all others, the least proper to have any Share in their Determination. Moved by these Considerations, and animated by the Example of our Correspondents in the Metropolis, we have generously resolved to ease you of the Trouble of governing yourselves, by placing at your Head our beloved Mr. P——R, the Controller of our Pleasures, and Master of our Festivities, we cannot say—Ceremonies, as we live in a Society which know no Distinctions. Confident that you can have no Objection to this friendly and reasonable Measure, we desire that you would give us three Days Notice, that we may be in a Condition to appear in Public, and have Time to compleat our Voyage, as we propose to travel to *Bath* in the One-Day Barge: And, that you may more clearly understand the Qualities and Value of the Goods to be imported, we herewith send you an Invoice or Bill of Lading.

Mr. Farrell, Tobacco Merchant and Chaudler.	Mr. Turner, Deal-Merchant.
Mr. Shute, Cheese-Monger.	Mr. John Moss, Apothecary.
Mr. Reade, Linen-Merchant.	Mr. King, Glass Bottle-Maker.
Mr. Jer. Baker, Linen-Merchant.	Mr. Edgar, White-Lead Worker.
Mr. Jos. Smith, Rope-Maker.	Mr. Harmer, Woollen-Draper.
Mr. Hayward, Block-Merchant.	Mr. Herbert, Confectioner.
Mr. E. Morgan, Sugar-Baker.	Mr. Loscombe, Grocer and Quaker.
Mr. Batterby, Sugar-Baker and Quaker.	Mr. Turton, Iron Manufacturer.
Mr. P. Farr, Rope-Maker and Merchant.	Mr. Masklin, Wine-Merchant.
Mr. Dabany, Sugar-Baker.	Mr. Longden, Insurance-Broker.
Mr. R. Vaughan, Linen-Draper.	Mr. John Farr, Tobacconist.
	Mr. Perry, Carrier, left off Business.
	Mr. Hays, Under-Writer.
	CUM MULTIS ALIIS.

March 28, 1769.

Copy of a Letter received by a Gentleman at Bath, and read this Day at the Parade Coffee-House.

“**I**NDEED, my dear Sir, it is a noble Resolution you have taken to try all that is in your Power to prevent such an infamous V—— as ——— from being Master of the Ceremonies. It is, as you very justly observe, serving the Public in the highest Manner; and all who are not of this Stamp, I should think, will most heartily join with you. It would give me great Satisfaction could I, in the smallest Degree, be assisting in preventing such a Wretch from imposing himself on the Public; not so much, I can truly say, from a Motive of Revenge for the Injury he has done me, as to prevent others from falling into his hellish Snares.

“You may depend that what follows is strictly true: It was the latter End of 1763, or the Beginning of 1764, in which I cannot be exact, as ——’s Letters are with my Lawyer in London, and I did not keep Copies of mine which I wrote from the Mount Coffee-House, I received a Letter from him, dated from some Place in ——shire, telling me he was much surpris’d, &c. that my Note to him, which he had indorsed to one P——ng, was not paid; he and others having drained me of my ready Money, they took my Note for the Sums they cheated me of.

“From various Circumstances I was at last convinced, that this Man was a downright Cheat at Cards; and in Answer to his Letter I plainly told him my Sentiments, and of his Behaviour to me, and that I would not pay him what he had won of me till I thought proper. About ten Days after this, I received a Note from him, sent to me in George-Street,

Street, and dated from the Queen's-Arms in Bond-Street; in which he acquainted me, that, in Consequence of my Letter, he was come in Person to answer it; and came to Town, post, for no other Purpose, and therefore desired I would come to him. I locked his Note up in my Desk, took my Sword, and went to him: He was in a back Room, up Stairs, sitting at a Table, with two Wax Lights and a Bottle of Claret before him. Our Salutation, you must think, was very cool: He then took my Letter out of his Pocket, and read it out;—after he had finish'd it, he asked me if these were my Thoughts of him? I said, *Yes!*—Will you not retract them? *No, I never will.*—Will you pay me? *No, not till I think proper.*—He then said, there was only one Way left for us to settle Accounts, and immediately got up, locked the Door, and fetched from behind a Curtain a Brace of large Pistols, after loading which, we each by Consent retired into an opposite Corner: He told me to fire; I answered, I should reserve mine, and bid him fire. In short, after a good deal of Altercation, he said, it was very foolish our quarrelling, and that he would trust to my Honour, desiring what had passed might be kept secret; and after drinking a Glass of his Claret which he had filled out, we both went to the Mount.

"Here you see the Bully. The worst Part of his Conduct is to come.—

"I have for a long Time pressed my Solicitor Mr. — to bring an Action against —, to compel him to deliver up two Notes he has of mine; and when this Winter in London, [I urged it so close, and gave him the necessary Particulars, that he filed a Bill against him,] his Answer to it, to my great Astonishment, was, That one was a Gaming Debt

Debt which he was ready to deliver up; but as to the other, which he calls a Bond for 190l. he swore positively was for Money lent me to prevent an Execution being brought into my House, but that no Person was by when he gave me the Money, in Consequence of which I was arrested here at his Suit. Thank God I had Friends who gave Bail for me.

"I immediately went to London to advise with my Solicitor and Lawyer what was best to be done to stop the V——n's Progress. They both were of Opinion to indite him immediately at the Old Bailey for *Perjury*, if after asking Council's Opinion he should think the same; but his Answer was, that in a Crime of this Nature there must be two Evidences, otherwise it could not be done, so I was obliged to drop that Scheme. I have since, according to Form, given in special Bail, and there at present this Affair rests. But if he does not proceed next Term, I will, I do assure you. I have at Times had Thoughts of sending you an Account of this very base Transaction of his, but have been ill for six Weeks past with a slow Fever and Head-Ach.

"You desired an Answer by the Return of the Post, so you must excuse the confused Manner in which I send you this. But the Facts you may (I again repeat it) depend on, and which I am ready to make an Affidavit of whenever called on; and you have my free Consent to make what Use you please of the above.

"My wife joins in sincerely wishing you a speedy Re-establishment of your Health, and in Hopes you will visit us this Summer.—Adieu! my dear Sir, and be assured I am, truly and sincerely,

Your Friend, &c.

Saffron-Walden, March 23, 1769.

JOSEPH FELL."

BATH, March 29, 1769.

To the NOBILITY and GENTRY.

MR. PLOMER, gratefully sensible of the repeated Honors conferr'd on him by the Subscribers to this Great Assembly, humbly presumes to take this Method of expressing his dutiful Acknowledgment of them; at the same Time soliciting the additional Favor of an Appearance in his Interest on the Day of Election, which is fixed for *Friday* the 31st Instant, in Mr. *Simpson's Room*, at Twelve o'Clock at Noon.

Should Mr. *Plomer* prove so fortunate as to succeed to his Wishes, he is not without Hopes that his future Conduct in Life will prove him to be not altogether unworthy of those Recommendations which his Friends have already been pleased to lay before the Public.

To the PUBLIC.

IS the Choice of a *Master of the Ceremonies* to be determined by the *Subscribers* who are, at the Time, resident in *Bath*, or by those who are absent?

How can the Friends of Mr. *P——r* assert, that a Notice given at Eight in the Morning of a Meeting to be held at One in the Afternoon was not sufficient, when they themselves, on a later Notice, had Time to assemble in the *Town-Hall* at Half past Eleven?—Should it be said, they had only Time to assemble a small Number of their Friends, they in this Case destroy the Force of their *Protest*, or must be reduced to the Necessity of maintaining that the *Minority* should over-rule the *Majority*.

If the appointing the Time of an Election is a Step necessary to be made previous to the Election itself, by whom is this Appointment to be determined?—by the Majority or the Minority? If by the Majority, then the Subscribers assembled at *Gyde's Room*, on *Tuesday* the 28th, had a Right to determine the Time, and proceed to an Election in Consequence of that Determination, as they formed a Majority of the whole Number of Subscribers at that Hour upon the List.

That the Notice given was *general*, cannot be denied, and that it was sufficient for the Purpose of coming to a fair and impartial Election, is manifest from hence,—That, had the whole Number of the Subscribers upon the Ball List been present at the Hour of Election, the Number of those who assembled on the 28th, who determined to come to an immediate Election, rejected the Protest, and nominated Mr. BRERETON to be Master of the Ceremonies, would have formed a Majority of the Whole.

<i>The Number of Subscribers upon the Ball List at the Time of the Election,</i>	519
<i>The Number of those who have left Bath since they subscribed to the Ball List,</i>	28
<i>The Number of those Subscribers who have declared a Neutrality,</i>	7
	35
	484
<i>Number of Subscribers who voted for Mr. Brereton,</i>	262
	222
<i>Majority</i>	40

An Objection to those whose Names were thrown into the Ball List, though they were absent from Bath,

Bath, (which Objection would be insuperable, were it insisted upon,) is omitted, as it clearly appears that Mr. *Brereton* has every Way a Majority, and for that Reason only it is thought unnecessary to insist upon it.

The Truth of this Representation, with Respect to the Numbers, will appear upon comparing the List of the Subscribers upon the Ball Book with Mr. *Brereton's* List, which will be opened for the Inspection of any Person who desires to see it.

To Mr. *PLOMER's* *Counsellor* and *Counsellors*.

GENTLEMEN,

BATH, March 30th, 1769.

I Was two Days ago one of the Number of Mr. *P——R's* Friends: The Reasons for my leaving you, I will give in the following ADDRESS; and let me assure you, though I alone have written to you, that I am not *singular* in my Conversion, as you perhaps may discover To-Morrow.

When I first joined you, I was indeed surpris'd at the great Disagreement and little Ingenuity I found among you; but this did not alter my Sentiments, for the best Cause may have clumsy Advocates; but when I discovered that the Cause was to be supported by any Means, and that *BRERETON* was to be distressed, and vilified in any the most outrageous and ungentlemanlike Manner, I discovered my Aversion to such Proceedings to some of the Party, and now publish my Objections, to be answered by all or any of you, and at the same Time promising to return to my Colours, if even your *Machiavel*, with all his Wit, Wisdom, Subtlety, and Law, can give the least Reason for your Conduct.

The

The first Question that I shall ask, and to which I never yet could get a direct, unembarrassed Answer, is this:—Have you not procured the Names of Many, to be set down as Subscribers to the Balls, merely to enlarge the List of Mr. *Plomer's* Friends, and who, from their Situations in Life, are totally ignorant of, and unconcerned with the Ceremonies of this Place, and therefore are justly excluded from the Right of voting for a Master of the Ceremonies? Or, will any Gentleman of your Party (for there are respectable ones among you) declare, that such a Right can be purchased for Two-and-Forty Shillings?—I am sure that all Counsellor *W——n's* Eloquence cannot induce one Gentleman to make so disingenuous a Declaration. From the Moment I was convinced that Numbers of that Kind were upon the List, I disavowed the Cause that could take such Measures to support it.

My second Question is,—Have you not in the most trumpery, ungrammatical Paper, that ever was published,—addressed *To the Nobility and Gentry residing at, or resorting to Bath*, dated the 27th of March,—endeavoured (by an awkward Attempt at Humour) to ridicule Mr. *Brereton's* Friends, as impudent, ignorant *Irishmen*, when you are conscious that some respectable People of that Nation are with your own Party, and that many *English* Gentlemen of Family and Fortune are with the other?—Whom did you put in the Chair at the last Meeting? Was *He* an *Englishman*?—And *Who* was it that proposed the Election of a *Master of the Ceremonies* from the Balcony to a Room full of Ladies and Gentlemen, when for Reasons (best known to yourselves) you would not attend the Majority

E. of

of Subscribers and the fair Election of Mr. B——n?
Was *He* an *Irishman*?

Now, to make Use of your own ingenious Words,—*Blush, if it be possible!*

When you, the *Minority*, had fixed the Day and Hour of your Meeting, to set aside the Election of the *Majority*, What did you do? Why, commit Blunders upon Blunders;—advertise for one Room, then advertise for another, and then another Advertisement to stand by the first, and at last a Fourth to own the Mistakes, and fix upon one Room; for by that Time you had found out that it would be inconvenient, if not impossible, to meet at Two Places at once.—As I mean to do justice to every Man, I must acknowledge that this last great Discovery was made solely by Mr. Counsellor W——n.
—*Who are in the Bogs now, Gentlemen?*

But this is only to give a Sample of your Heads; I will now present you and the Public with an Instance of the Goodness of your Hearts:—When Mr. *Brereton* was nominated by a Majority of the then rightful Subscribers, as Coadjutor to Mr. *Derrick*, he was not opposed; but has performed the Duty of the Place with Care, Propriety, and, what we have not lately seen, with Dignity.—As this was the Case, and the Gentleman lived here with his Family, was it not natural to suppose that, in Case of Mr. *Derrick's* Death, he would succeed to the Mastership? And would it not have been more liberal in his Opponents, to have produced any virulent *Accusations* against him during his Probation, than have deferred it 'till the Evening before, or the Morning of the Election, when it was impossible for the *Accused* to vindicate himself?—And yet this was done;—done with great Triumph, and a

most

most foul Letter of Abuse and Calumny produced, I hope not, as it is said, by a Rev. Clergyman, (*tantæne Animis Cælestibus Iræ!*) to destroy a Man when it was impossible for him to defend himself; and just at a Time when he was to be elected to a Place, the Loss of which might have been the Ruin of Himself and Family for ever!

But this black Business was soon held in the just Contempt it deserved; and I will do you, Gentlemen, the Justice to believe, that you now feel that this was (to say no more) a most unjustifiable and unmanly Proceeding.—Dean Swift says, (I hope you will have no Objection to him as an Irishman) that, *when a Man calls Names, you may be sure that his Truth and his Reason are run out, that his Passion is only the guggling of the Dregs of the Vessel.*—Will you permit me to say, and to hope and believe, that this present Acrimony, and unnecessary Heat, is only the guggling of your Disappointment? And may I flatter myself, that you will not think me very culpable for separating from you for the Reasons above-mentioned?—You have made me a warm well-wisher and Friend of Mr. B——n; and he who does not defend his persecuted Friend, *Horace* (who is not an Irishman) says, *Niger est, hunc tu Romane caveto*;—which for the Sake of Mr. Counsellor W——n, I translate thus—*Niger est*—He is a Lawyer without Conscience, and you should enter your *Caveat* against him.

I am, Gentlemen, not your's at present, T. R.

QUERIES and REMARKS on some late Proceedings.

BATH, March 30, 1769.

IS it allowable, in a Society of Gentlemen, to represent One-Third of that Society as Fortune-Hunters, impudent, and incapable of Blushing?

Does Modesty consist in telling Lies in a Whisper, or, in guarding against Detection by anonymous Hand-Bills?

Is it Modesty, or Impudence, when detected in a Falsehood, to brave it under the Protection of a L—C—J—?

Was it consistent with Justice to publish, on the Authority of one Man, absent and a professed Enemy, an Accusation which tended to the Disgrace and present Ruin of another?

Does it not appear, by the Letter itself, that the Accusation which it contains was solicited, and applied for?

Mr. B——n has been many Years an Inhabitant of Bath; Himself uncensured, his Family respected. His Innocence has forced his Enemies to fly the Test of Trust; to cast their dark Plot in a distant Scene; to become the Solicitors of an odious and vindictive Crimination; the Attornies, the Proxies, of a pitiful Calumniator.

The Letter-Writer, not content with declaring Mr. B——n to be an infamous V——n, affirms, that all those who support him must be as infamous as himself: The Publishers of this Letter are responsible for its Contents.——Mr. Fell owes his Security to the Distance at which he acts: His Agents indeed stand forth; we know where they will stand, with broad Faces and trembling Limbs, under the miserable Protection of a *Bath Magistrate*.

It is not meant that a single Article of this Charge should be placed to the Account of Mr. Plomer: His Insignificance secures him from the Suspicion of having acted a Principal, or, indeed any Part in his own Cause. But, as his Facility on this Occasion threatens us with the Continuance of this delegated Authority,

Authority, he must not wonder that we should feel an Abhorrence of falling under the Dominion of Mr. Fell's Agents.

It is confessed that Mr. *Plomer* has had the Happiness to engage in his Cause many Persons of Worth and Honour; by what Fatality has it been, that the Management of his Cause has fallen to the only bad Heads and Hearts of his Party?—I will tell you, Mr. *Plomer*,—it is a trite Observation, that every Advantage in this Life has its Counter-agent; there was no Balance to your good Fortune, but in your Ignorance.

BATH, March 31, 1769.

THE public Insult, which Mr. *Plomer* received last Night in Mr. *Simpson's Rooms*, calls for the following Vindication of that Gentleman's Character, both in Justice to him and to those who support his Cause.

Mr. *Plomer's* Friends being apprehensive that some Violence might be committed on his Person, and judging, from many obvious Reasons, how improper his Resentment would appear on such an Occasion, strictly enjoined him to restrain from that Return of Violence, which an Attack upon a Gentleman's Person or Character demands, and that he should have Recourse to the Protection of the Law.

—As Mr. *Plomer* stood in this Situation, and acted according to the positive Injunctions of his Friends, they alone are answerable for such a Conduct, and they appeal to the Candour of the Public for the Propriety of their Proceedings.

To

To Mr.

S I R,

March 31st, 1769.

I Received your Letter, in which you threaten me with a Prosecution. I have done Wrong to no Man; and therefore have nothing to fear. If Mr. FELL has done you any, (which I am satisfied he has not,) the Law is open, and will severely punish him: And he has sufficient Property *yet left* to make him very responsible for Damages. As to myself, what I have done in this Affair I shall always avow, as I scorn to be a concealed Enemy to any Man.

I have taken the Part of a much injured Family, my Friend's; and, if I mistake not, of the *Public*, which has the first Claim upon our Love and Service, before a *false Compassion* to Individuals, or *mean national Prejudices*. From these Motives, not from Personal Resentments or Connections, I have opposed your Election; and I have done it openly, at the Expence of that Ease and Quiet which my State of Health requires, and in which I would always wish to live.

That I have not opposed you from National Prejudices is evident; because I was a Friend and Advocate for your Countryman Mr. DERRICK, against the *Committee*, as far as my little Interest would go. For *Englishmen* are above those little sordid, local Partialities, which they have in all Places and upon all Occasions to encounter in their ungenerous Neighbours. Not to disguise my Sentiments, I do not think you, Sir, a proper Person for the Office you solicit, nor that you have any just Pretensions to it; though some of your Champions have attempted to seize it with the Hand of Violence, in the Absence
and

and against the Opinion and Consent of the greatest Personages in this Kingdom:—A Presumption extremely offensive and disgusting to all modest Persons. As if a few foreign Families, of whatever Nation, coming here from Motives of Health, Pleasure, *Interest*, or *Convenience*, have a Right to *take the Lead*, direct the Amusements, and give *Law* to the *Natives*. We can easily conceive how an Handful of *English*, taking the same Liberty at *Aix* or *Spa*, would be treated, even though they could talk and threaten ever so loud; as those are apt to do, who have neither Reason nor Justice to support their Pretensions.

In short, if your Countrymen and their present Allies will forget their Nationality, and mix cordially with the *English*, you will find that *Tros Tyriusve nobis nullo Discrimine habetur*; but if you will separate from us, and cabal together, and strive in a Body for a Power and Influence which do not belong to you, I hope, though some may prove so mean and degenerate as to abett your Usurpation, that others will not be wanting to give it a Check, and make you sensible of the Absurdity as well as Indecency of such a Behaviour.

I am, Sir, your very humble Servant, &c.

T. N——TE.

P. S. I have just seen the Aspersions and oblique Threats thrown out against Mr. FELL in a very absurd Hand-Bill, which rather exposes than serves your Cause. In Answer to it I will only say, that it will be Time enough to call him a *pitiful Calumniator*, when you can invalidate any Part of his Charge. He has proved himself a Man of Honour in charging you *openly* in the Face of the Sun; and
having

having already faced you with your own Weapons, and faced you down, he has proved himself to be also a Man of Spirit; and I believe no Gentleman will think him obliged ever to meet you again upon this, or any other Occasion, unless it be before a Magistrate, or in a Court of Justice. So much I thought necessary to say for my absent Friend, tho' indeed it is rather paying a Compliment to what has been offered to the Public against him.

March 31, 1769.

THIS is to give Notice, that the Poll-Books for the Master of the Ceremonies will be opened To-Morrow, at Eleven o'Clock, at *Simpson's Card-Room*, and continued 'till Three, when they will be finally closed.

April the 1st, 1769.

OUR Poll-Books this Day
For, oh! my Nose! *
At *Simpson's* by Three
Will finally close.

* Alluding to the public Insult above-mentioned.

To Mr. PLOMER's FRIENDS.

Quid verum, atque decens, curo, & rogo, & omnis in hoc sum.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

MAY a cool dispassionate Man have the Liberty to be heard a few Words in the Midst of your Hurry, Heat, and Violence?—You will at least find that I differ from you, with a little more Reason

for and much less ill-Manners than both Sides have hitherto shewn to each other.

If you will pay me the Compliment to believe me sincere in my Declaration, I will do you the Justice to believe you open to Conviction, if you would allow yourselves Time to consider, and be cool.

You have proceeded to an Election of a *Master of the Ceremonies*, which you, by your Advertisements, have acknowledged to be the Result of a Consultation of *Mr. Plomer's Friends* only, and not of the Subscribers in general,—so that the Determination will be ever considered as *partial*, I am afraid, *unjust*, and consequently *ineffectual*.

And how will you answer, that at the Time you were representing the whole Company, you will find by casting your Eyes upon the Subscription-Books, that you the *Minority* (*Mr. Plomer's Friends*) were giving Laws to the *Majority*, who were called together by the general Name of *Subscribers*, and elected *Mr. Brereton*, in a fair and *impartial* Manner, and according to *Precedent*.

When you, *Mr. Plomer's Friends*, sent three very respectable Gentlemen from the Town-Hall to Gyde's Room, what did the Message import? Why truly, that *Mr. Plomer's Friends* (not the Subscribers) had determined that there should be three Days Notice; and that every Act of Course was null and void, that did not come from *Mr. Plomer's Friends*, and, let me repeat it again, without saying in any of your Advertisements that those *Friends* were *Subscribers*.

If there is a Sort of *natural, native* Right to the *Mastership of the Ceremonies*, it surely belongs to *BRERETON*; he has been appointed *Coadjutor* to *Mr. Derrick*, by the Subscribers; has supplied the Place

having already faced you with your own Weapons, and *faced you down*, he has proved himself to be also a Man of Spirit; and I believe no Gentleman will think him obliged ever to meet you again upon this, or any other Occasion, unless it be before a Magistrate, or in a Court of Justice. So much I thought necessary to say for my absent Friend, tho' indeed it is rather paying a Compliment to what has been offered to the Public against him.

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If there is a Sort of *natural, native Right* to the *Mastership of the Ceremonies*, it surely belongs to *BRERETON*; he has been appointed *Coadjutor* to *Mr. Derrick*, by the Subscribers; has supplied the Place

with Care and Attention; and lives with his Family at Bath:—And if there is an *Elective* Right necessary to confirm him in the Place, has he not had the Votes of the *Majority* of the *Subscribers*, convened for that Purpose, and only disputed by Mr. *Plomer's* *Friends*, who were assembled at the Town-Hall by that Name, to give Laws, and *undo* whatever the *Subscribers* in general should determine.

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, are you not alarmed a little to find, by this Morning's Transaction, that you have been the Dupes of a few designing Men? Have they not poured a great Number of People in upon you, whom you never saw before, and perhaps will never see again, merely for the Purpose of swelling the List?—Have you not heard some Persons who call themselves Gentlemen deny, with Warmth deny, such an evil Intention?—And are you not satisfied, too late, for what unjustifiable Reasons the Election has been postponed for three Days by Mr. *Plomer's* *Friends*? As your own Eyes have had Conviction of this Truth, may not I suppose your Hearts to say with *Hudibras*

When Pique and Party lead the Way,
We feel too late, the best may stray?

April 1, 1769.

THE Ball for Mr. BRERETON, Master of the Ceremonies, will be on Monday next, at SIMPSON'S.

April 1, 1769.

TO put an End to all farther Contention relative to the Election of a Master of the Ceremonies, and to prevent those ill Effects which there is but too

THE BATH CONTEST.

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too much Reason to apprehend may result from the present Animosities which have arisen from this Contest; the following Propositions are offered to the Consideration of both Parties.

1st, That the Surplus of the Subscription Money be applied to Charitable Uses.

2d, That each of the present Candidates shall have a Ball.

3d, That a Third Person shall be elected *Master of the Ceremonies*.

4th, That the Person elected shall, in Consideration of Mrs. B——n's large Family, pay her 100l. per Ann. during his Continuance in that Office.

To the SUBSCRIBERS to the BALLS.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

A Subscriber, uninterested in the present Contests for Mr. *Derrick's* Employment, presumes to lay before you the following Considerations.

That each Party, in their Zeal for their favourite Candidate, have mutually represented each other as Gamblers and Fortune-Hunters, on one Side; as Tallow-Chandlers, Cheesemongers, Rope-makers, &c. on the other: That the Publick hath been offended, and the Decencies of private Conversation violated by Tales, it is hoped, of Malice and Calumny: That Complaints and Reproaches of Irregularity, Precipitation, Injustice, and *Invasion of Rights*, have been urged with Virulence and Acrimony by both Parties: That as the Numbers in each List are nearly equal, a very considerable Minority will be disobliged by the Success of the Majority; that, consequently, as the Income of the Person, whom

whom you shall please to appoint the Master of the Ceremonies, arises from your voluntary Subscriptions to his Balls, it will be greatly lessened, and therefore insufficient to maintain the real Importance, if we may not rather call it the Dignity of his Office. That the Candidate who shall succeed, if he be not insensible to the Feelings of human Nature, or greatly superior to its Frailties; if he hath any Sense of Friendship and Obligations, of Honour and Gratitude, he will certainly find himself often distressed between his private Engagements and his public Duty: That it will be difficult, if not impossible for him, to preserve an Independence, Equality, and Integrity, essential to his Office: That whoever considers the unhappy Spirit of Disputing, that even in the Moment of asserting its Resolutions of Equity and Moderation, it is frequently enflamed to an ill-manner'd Heat, to Violence and Outrage: That it has already transgressed all Bounds of Good-Breeding, if not of Truth, by low, illiberal Irony, by Revilings, by open Scandal, or dark Insinuations, not to be repeated; but which, if not wholly false, should disqualify both the Candidates for an Employment, under which the Beauty and Virtue, the Youth and Inexperience of both Sexes are placed for Protection from Rudeness and Seduction; for Security from Ruin, and the bad Arts of Gamblers.

If this Representation be founded in Truth, undeniable, and upon Facts too easily proved; who will not be alarmed for the very Being of Bath,—I mean, as a Place of Amusement, good Humour, and good Breeding? Is it then *absolutely* necessary, that either of the present Candidates shall be chosen? May not some third Person appear, who has neither Enemies to malign his private Reputation, nor Friends

Friends too zealous in defending it; who is neither threatened with the Resentments of a *great and powerful* Party, nor turned into Ridicule by the *well-intentioned* Offices of his Friends; who being neither influenced by personal Kindnesses, or personal Injuries, will consider himself as the Servant of the Publick? Such a Person, Ladies and Gentlemen, will do honour to your Choice; and, by an uninfluenced, unbiaſſed Conduct in his Office, may hope to continue in it, beyond next Autumn, which in all Probability will put a Period to the Employment of either of the present Candidates.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

Let me presume to recommend another Consideration to your Judgment, or indeed rather to your Humanity:—A Sum of Money, amounting to little less than Eleven Hundred Guineas, has been subscribed upon this Occasion;—in Compassion to the Disappointment of the two Candidates, you may order it to be divided between them, first deducting the usual Expences of the Rooms. Then as Mr. B——n has officiated for some Time past, you may permit him to have a Ball in the fullest Part of the Season; but the Goodness of your own Hearts, your Equity, your Humanity, will direct you better than the Writer of this Paper presumes to be capable of doing.

Let him only beg to be forgiven this Presumption. Let him be permitted to express his Wishes for seeing the Tranquility of Bath restored, and to profess the Respect, with which he has the Honour to be,

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient Servant,

A SUBSCRIBER.

REASONS and QUESTIONS, to be answered by Mr. P---'s Friends, why M--- should not be confirmed and established Master of the Ceremonies.

IS he not a Man of Character?

Is he not supported by a Set of Gentlemen and Ladies of as great, or greater Rank and Fortune, than were ever known to be in *Bath* since King *Bladud*'s Days?

Does not his Rank as Major in the Army put him above any other of the Candidates by a Pike's Length?

Is he not the intimate Friend of Mr. —, who is allowed to be the bravest Man in the Kingdom, by daring to do what no brave Man ever did before?

Was his Religion ever suspected? Is he not happily free in his Opinion on that Matter?

Is he not an excellent Husband, a provident Parent; a pleasant, instructive, agreeable Companion; an Enemy to every Kind of Vice?

Without enlarging further upon many other great Qualifications which he possesses, I shall only assure the Public, and that upon my Honour, I do really and truly believe, there never was, nor ever will be again, such a Man offer himself for Master of the Ceremonies at *Bath*.

I am only amazed, in these degenerate Times, a Man of so many Virtues should be so well supported: *Virtus laudatur* & alget shall no more be repeated by Pedants or School-Boys.

How happy must this lucky Event make all Parents and Guardians, when they may be assured Young Persons of Rank and Fortune can now pass a Season at *Bath* as safely as the beauteous *Godiva* passed through *Coventry*.

THE BATH CONTEST.

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BATH, April 3, 1769.

To the NOBILITY and GENTRY.

MR. PLOMER, being elected *Master of the Ceremonies* of this Place, with the utmost Respect returns his grateful Acknowledgments and Thanks to the Company, presuming to hope that no Part of his Conduct has given just Offence in this respectable Community.

At the same Time he begs Leave to assure the Public, with the strictest Sincerity, that he laments the Heats and Animosities arisen amongst the Company in some Measure on his Account; but he confides in the Candour of the Subscribers in general, that they will not violate the established Rules merely for the Sake of Opposition.

He therefore gives this Notice, that *Gyde's Rooms* will be open in Course this Night, where he humbly hopes that the Nobility and Gentry, who are inclined to support their Nomination, will appear; and when, with their Approbation, he will take upon himself the Exercise of his Office.

To the LADIES and GENTLEMEN, who are yet uninfluenced by Party or Faction in the present Election.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

YOUR Interests are united by the strong Hand of Nature. She hath given to both Sexes those Powers, which equally promote each other's Happiness. Upon their Union all the dearest Charities of social Life are founded. Surely then, not with an Intention of dividing them, does the Writer of this Paper presume to consider them separately; while

THE BATH CONTEST.

while he hopes they may be happily united to restore the Peace and Tranquility of what was lately the most delightful Town in Europe.

LADIES,

I would not alarm you with imaginary Dangers; and you may yet prevent them if they be real. But when a Partisan of one of your Candidates declared, *last Friday*, as by the Authority of his Party, "That the Ladies might go *that Night* without Apprehension to the Ball, and assured them, that Mr. Baereton should not be disturbed in the Ceremonies of that Night by Mr. Plomer's Friends." — What could this Declaration, this Assurance, mean? Were they designed to intimidate, or to encourage? Was not the very promised Protection of *that Night*, an alarming Menace of Danger for every other? What then, Ladies! are you never to go to a Ball hereafter, without Apprehensions of Tumult and Confusion? Yet some Excuse may be pleaded for it, as it almost necessarily arose from an Act of Violence committed upon one of your Candidates.

GENTLEMEN,

Every Man of Spirit is the natural Guardian of the Female Sex. It is *your Duty*, therefore, to inquire into the Circumstances of this Act of Violence; nor are you yourselves unconcerned in it. The Candidates for this disputed Office should be equally protected by both Parties. The Injury offered to Mr. P—— was indeed personal; but the Affront, the Insult, the Indignity, was offered to You. Permit me only to say that, in my Opinion, it is difficult to determine, Whether this Outrage was more atrocious, or the same, passive Spirit of not resenting it, (*though by the Advice of Friends*) was more contemptible.

But

But a mediating Scheme is proposed. The Candidates shall draw Lots, or cut the Cards, or Cross or Pile, for the Choice of the Guineas in the Subscription Books, or of this well disputed Office. A very proper Scheme to determine the Merit of your Candidates. Then how compassionate is it? How cruel would it be to let a third Candidate run away with — The Proverb, as Hamlet says, is somewhat musty. But is there not an Air of Indignity to the Subscribers in this mediating Scheme, and them who shall compel us to accept it? Is not the Money upon your Books, (if the Gentlemen are indeed such Objects of Charity as they are represented) abundantly sufficient to recompence their Month's Attendance? What Charity is due to a sturdy Beggar, who solicits us indeed with a Tone of Poverty, but in laced Cloaths, Embroidery and Velvet? What Compassion do we owe to either of them for the Spirit of Obstinacy, with which they still persevere in disturbing the public Quiet? If they have both contributed to the present Confusion, can we expect, that either of them should be willing or able to restore us to that Harmony and Order, which they have interrupted, if not for ever destroyed?

I subscribed for a Master, &c. of my own Choice. Shall another be imposed upon me without my Consent? I am no Gamester, and who shall compel me to play? And is there no other Difference than that of Chance between our Candidates? What Right has even a Majority over my Subscription? I will withdraw it, and then farewell for ever to Bath, and its almost Brentford Election of Bruisers and Bludgeons.

I have said, Ladies, that it is in your Power to prevent the Mischiefs which threaten us. If the

Magistracy of Bath, which were greatly to be wished, shall not think it their Duty, for the Preservation of the public Peace, to forbid the Rooms to be opened this Evening, your Resolution of not going to them will produce the same good Effect. You have experienced, that your Presence has not been able to controul the Furioufness of one Party, and the other is probably meditating Revenge. What a Scene for your Sex to appear in! Your Absence may shame them into Temper. A Room full of Men! What a ridiculous Sight! What Wretches should we be without You!

I have the Honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servant,

April 4th, 1769.

A NEUTRAL SUBSCRIBER.

The TWO KINGS of BATH.

Arma Virumque cano.

VIRG.

WHILST neighbouring Kingdoms disagree,
And talk of Wilkes and Liberty,
Pensions, Prerogatives, and Pow'r,
And utter Nonfence by the Hour
Of what their own poor barren Brain
From daily Journalists retain:
A lowlier Theme I humbly sing,
Of whom hereafter may be KING
Of *Bladud's* Realm, where Mirth should reign;
But Discord now the Waters stain;
That Place, where *Venus* should preside,
The fiery *Mars* does seem to guide.

Say, Muse, 'twixt whom the Contest lies,
Who bids the fairest for the Prize:
For 'tis a Prize well worth Contention,
Attended with so good a Pension.

Two Kings alike assert their Claim,
P**M**R and B**R**T**N by Name:
Not like *Brentfordian* Kings of old,
Of whom an ancient Story told,

THE BATH CONTEST.

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And Theatres are daily telling,
Of marching, to one Nosegay smelling,
But opposite, in fierce Array,
Contending each to gain the Day.

On one Side this Advantage lies,
In Favour of the precious Prize;
Early train'd up in all the Arts
Of fighting Kings of Clubs and Hearts,
Of combating with Queens and Knaves,
Whom he, by Force of Arms, outbraves;
A Man of Family and Name,
Witness his late Newmarket Fame;
In social Duties well profess'd,
By Character a Duellist.

The other, horn and bred at *Bristol*,
Unskill'd in firing off a Pistol,
Of Countenance serene and mild,
And innocent, as new-born Child,
Of all the little Ways and Arts
T' inveigle tender, Female Hearts,
Possess'd of no small Share of Merit,
Not totally devoid of Spirit;
In gambling Schemes no Undertaker,
Nor by Profession a Rope-maker,
For much the other seems afraid
Of the eurst Produce of that Trade,
Witness their *Bristol* List, I mean
Where in the Front that Trade is seen.

On either Side a numerous Train
Of Friends, their Sov'reign's Right sustain;
Lords, Ladies, 'Squires, help the Farce on,
Nor want they Benefit of Parson;
W—b skill'd in Poetry and Painting,
And *G—r—k* in the Art of Fainting,
Whene'er he dies in *Juliet's* Cause,
Or gay *Lothario's* Picture draws:
Some Swagg'ers fierce, who foam and storm,
With their tall Bully, *C—n O—*;
This *O—*, he never would be quiet,
Witness Miss *S—m—ns*, and Miss *Riot*,
Of whom 'tis said, as Rumour tells,
He once did storm their Citadels.

The others, Men of milder Natures,
Of more compos'd and settled Features,

Stricter Observers of Decorum
 'Mongst Ladies, than to dare before 'em,
 In public Rooms, attack Men's Noses,
 Which want of Decency supposes;
 A Courage, 'tis a Thing well known,
 Becomes an Ill, 'mongst Ladies shewn,
 Nor is it a Distinction nice
 To nominate it Cowardice.

As yet the Battle is depending,
 Nor promises a speedy Ending.

O! Spirit of King NASH, arise!
 This mighty Diff'rence compromise;
 Arise, with Olive Branches crown'd,
 And strew them thick o'er *Bladud's* Ground;
 Bring festive Humour in thy Train,
 Bid social Mirth her Seat regain;
 Instead of pouting Looks and Frowns,
 Fierce Eyes, and Partly-colour'd Gowns,
 Impress upon each Female Face
 Returning Gleams of native Grace;
 And if contentious Strife could cease,
 And listen to the Voice of Peace,
 These Terms to both I would propose,
 Which might the mighty Diff'rence close:
 If any Remnants of thy Race,
 Are yet existing in this Place,
 Let lineal Monarchy succeed,
 And may the Son the Sire's wise Precepts heed.

A STATE of Mr. PLOMER's POLL, &c.

THE Numbers on the Subscription-Book
 to the Balls, at Three o'Clock on Satur-
 day, April 1st, 1769, were — — 606
 The Absentees and Neutrals, that are known
 to be such, are — — 86
 — — 520
 The Number of Ladies and Gentlemen who
 voted for Mr. *Plomer*, as per List, — 267

These last Numbers were all that could possibly have voted for Mr. BRERETON, notwithstanding (by his printed Account) he is said to have had 262 that voted for him.—It is by this very evident that Mr. PLOMER on the Remainder of the Subscribers, after deducting of the Absentees, &c. as before-mentioned, has a clear Majority of fourteen Voices.

N. B. It is well known that the Names of many People are to be found in Mr. *Brereton's* Account, who did not appear in Person at the Poll taken for him on Tuesday the 28th of March, 1769, from One o'Clock until Three, when they closed it. It is also observed, that the Method of taking the Poll for Mr. *Brereton* was very different from the Mode observed by the Gentlemen that took the Poll for Mr. *Plomer*, who were very careful not to admit one Person to vote who did not answer in the Affirmative to this previous Question, *Have you subscribed to the Balls, and paid your own Money?* Neither have they suffered one Person to subscribe as a Voter, since the Time fixed for closing the Poll; notwithstanding there were many Ladies and Gentlemen who (by Illness or Engagements) could not appear to vote, but who would have readily subscribed as Voters to Mr. *Plomer*, if the Books had been carried to them; as it is well known Mr. *Brereton's* Book was to his absent Friends.

Rt. Hon. Lord Mountmorris

Right Hon. Lord Clare

Hon. and Rev. Mr. Sherard

Sir Mark Parsons, Bart.

Sir Boucher Wrey, Bart.

Mr. Richard Shubrick

John Brent, M. D.

Sir Edward Clive, Knt.

Lady Houghton

Mrs. Bayley

Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Horsman

Rt. Hon. Lady C. Montague

Miss C. Bathurst

Mrs. E. Sawyer

Mrs. A. Colmore

Mrs. S. Sawyer

Right Hon. Lady Bingley

THE BATH CONTEST.

Mrs. Denton	Mr. Pepper
Mrs. Southwell	Mrs. Williams
Lady Moore	Mr. Smith
Mrs. Pownell	Mr. Taylor
Lady Goodricke	Mr. Baileys
Mrs. Riggs	Mrs. Otway
Mrs. Hustler	Mrs. Henley
Miss Wright	Mrs. Langton
Mr. Savage	Mr. Daubeny
Mrs. Shaw	Mr. Madox
Mrs. Danbuz	Hon. Mrs. Raymond
Mrs. Birkhead	Mr. Goodwin
Mrs. Cole	Mrs. Blackburne
Miss Cox	Mr. Blackburne
Mr. Mein	Mr. Wood
Mrs. Adamson	Mr. Dehany
Mrs. Bell	Mr. Nicolls
Mrs. Conyers	Mr. Harmen
Mr. Adamson	Mr. Jackson
Mr. Tempest	Mr. Moss
Mr. Hare	Mr. J. Vaughan, Junr.
Mr. Edgar	Mr. Shaw
Mr. Moseley	Mr. Blunt
Mr. William Bragge	Mr. Langton
Mr. Le Merchant	Mr. Greenwood
Mr. Brickdale	Mr. Nelson
Mrs. Eaton	Rev. Dr. Hillman
Mr. Bennett	Mrs. Blagrove
Mrs. F. Lisle	Mrs. Powell
Mr. Hart	Mr. T. Haynes, Junr.
Mr. Herbert Sawyer	Mr. Jones
Mr. Meyrick	Mr. Stephens
Miss Coldham	Mr. Harper
Miss F. Shaw	Mr. B. Shaw
Mrs. Haye	Hon. Mr. Stracey
Mrs. Ayleworth	Mr. W. Shaw
Mr. Proudfoot	Mr. Lisle
Mrs. Lempriere	Mrs. Portman
Mr. J. Elton, Junr.	Mrs. Gwatkin
Mr. Russell	Mrs. Farell
Mrs. Foley	Sir Robert Smith, Bart.
Mr. Partridge	Mr. Jones
Mr. Salter	Mr. Eagles
Mrs. Enys	Mrs. Gore
Mrs. Stephens	Mr. Knowles

THE BATH CONTEST.

Mr. Farr
 Mr. Symons
 Mr. Morris
 Rev. Mr. Northcote
 Miss Coxe
 Miss M. Coxe
 Mr. R. H. Coxe
 Mr. R. Vaughan
 Mr. Bayly
 Mr. Scarle
 Rev. Mr. Taylor
 Mr. Leigh Perrot
 Mr. Welman
 Mr. Pearce
 Mr. Bacon
 Mr. J. Durben, Junr.
 Mr. W. Batterby
 Mr. Lampriere
 Mr. Jenkins
 Mr. Day
 Mr. Hoare
 Lady Mill
 Mrs. Court
 Mr. Chambers
 Mr. Fry
 Mr. Collins
 Mr. Gardiner
 Mrs. Gardiner
 Mr. Smith
 Mr. Riggs
 Rev. Mr. Cookson
 Mr. Drax
 Mr. Wroughton
 Mr. Skone
 Mr. Allnut
 Mrs. Adams
 Mr. Neufville
 Mr. Charnock
 Rev. Mr. Wickham
 Mr. J. H. Coxe
 Mr. Longden
 Mr. Loscombe
 Mr. Lefevre
 Mrs. Gwyn
 Mr. Gwyn

Mrs. Molyneux
 Mr. Crespigny
 Mr. Jones
 Mr. Coffin
 Mr. Shakerley
 Mr. Southcote
 Mr. Baker
 Mr. James Laroche, Junr.
 Mr. C. Coxe
 Mr. James Vaughan
 Sir John Moore, Bart.
 Mr. Becher
 Mr. Hayward
 Mr. Wayne
 Rev. Dr. Warner
 Rev. Mr. Penton
 Mr. Owens
 Mr. Hayes
 Mr. Reddall
 Mr. Nott
 Miss Fettyplace
 Mr. Eyre
 Mrs. Cookson
 Mr. Harson
 Mrs. Owen
 Mr. Read
 Miss Rambouillet
 Miss Hotchkin
 Rev. Mr. Yescomb
 Miss Roberts
 Mr. Lambert
 Mr. Morgan
 Mrs. Brigstock
 Mr. Owen
 Mrs. Barlow
 Rev. Dr. Woodward, Dean
 of Clogher
 Mr. Brune
 Mr. Baker
 Mr. Houghton
 Mr. Southwell
 Mr. Blake
 Mr. Biggs
 Mr. Brailsford
 Mr. Pennel Hawkins

THE BATH CONTEST.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Mr. Forward | Miss Thresher |
| Mr. Herbert, jun. | Mr. Brice |
| Mr. Bernard | Mr. Austen |
| Mr. Banks | Mr. Williams |
| Mr. Osborne | Mr. Portmans |
| Mr. Pope | Mr. Laforey |
| Mr. Maskelyne | Mrs. Creswicke |
| Mr. Birkhead | Mr. Beynon |
| Mrs. Greene | Mr. Blagrove |
| Mr. Wood | Mr. Gore |
| Mr. Lewis | Miss Shaw |
| Mr. Nicholas, jun. | Mr. Farrell |
| Rev. Mr. Baldwynne | Mrs. Brown |
| Mr. Breedon | Mr. Hotchkin |
| Mr. C. Bragge | Mr. Turton |
| Mr. Crofts | Mr. Crugar |
| Mr. Yorke | Mr. Noble |
| Mr. James Weldon, jun. | Mr. Horner |
| Mr. Pughin | Mrs. Collins |
| Mr. Brigstock | Mr. Powys |
| Mr. Olivier | Mr. Andrews |
| Mr. B. Colborne | Mr. Donne |
| Mr. R. Haynes | Mr. Newman |
| Mr. Gwynne | Mrs. Green |
| Rev. Mr. Wickam | Lady Clive |
| Lady Thorold | Rev. Dr. Peploe |
| Mr. Savage | Mr. Bampfylde |
| Mr. Turner | Mr. Haviland |
| Lady Mostyn | Miss Lovell |
| Mr. Ed. Gore | Mrs. Hotchkin |
| Mr. Dalbiao | Mr. R. Adamson |
| Mr. Hobhouse | Miss Rawlin |
| Mr. Symmonds | Mrs. Asheton |
| Mr. Buckle | Mrs. Penton |
| Mrs. Bowles | Mrs. Drax |

A Proposal made by Mr. BRERETON to Mr. PLOMER and his Friends, assembled at the Bear Inn, on Wednesday Evening, the 5th of April, 1769.

IN order to establish Unanimity amongst the Company at Bath, I am willing to refer the Merits of the Election for Master of the Ceremonies to the under-

under-named Noblemen and Gentlemen, or as many of them as will please to attend on the Occasion, and I will abide by their Determination between Mr. PLOMER and me.

WILLIAM BRERETON.

Lord HUNTINGDON,	Mr. CALLIS,
Lord HEREFORD,	Mr. MARRIOT,
Lord SOMERVILLE,	General SANDEFORD,
Sir GEORGE YOUNG,	Mr. NORRIS,
Sir W. St. QUINTIN,	Mr. BATERSBY,
Col. SOMERVILLE,	

SIR, To Mr. BRERETON.

I Think it improper to accept of your Proposal, though I have the highest Opinion of those honorable Gentlemen whose Names you have mentioned in your Note.

I am, Sir, your humble Servant,

R. H. PLOMER.

P. S. I have already publicly made an Offer for the Sake of the Peace of the Community, which it becomes me to abide by.

MR. BRERETON immediately sent a Note to Mr. Plomer, desiring to know what Proposal he had made, as Mr. Brereton had not received any Proposal from Mr. Plomer: To which Note Mr. Plomer sent the following Answer.

SIR, To Mr. BRERETON.

I Have already made a public Declaration, (not to you in particular) that I would for the Peace of this Community resign my Pretensions, provided you would your's, unto a third Person that might be agreeable to the Company. You will observe that your Son was then understood to be excepted.

I am your humble Servant,

Bath, 5th April, 10 o'Clock. R. H. PLOMER.

H

KING and no KING, or the BATH ELECTION.

SAY, BATH! from whence this civil Discord flows,
 That kindles Rage in gentle Belles and Beaux?
 'Tis from a mighty cause their Fury springs,
 The mighty Cause of Liberty and Kings!
 St. George's Race with stout St. Patrick's vies;
 Warm as the Contest, noble is the Prize,
 The CROWN of BATH!—What Empire can compare
 With that o'er Men of Taste and Ladies fair?

Two Rival Kings of BATH at once behold!
 (Illustrious *Brentford*! such thy Fate of old!)
Hibernia's Leader claims the foremost Place,
 Allow'd the Chief in Hardiness of Face;
 Erst on the Turf how flourishing his Name!
 But envious Nobles nipp'd his growing Fame.
 His Reputation, ting'd by Scandal's Stains,
 He by true Proof, the Dint of Sword, maintains.
 What, but our Courage, can our Honour shew?
 Yet Courage dreads a FELL and injur'd Foe.
 This King of Clubs will quit the Gaming Trade,
 (Fortunes by Gaming are not always made)
 To rule at BATH, (oh! noble, gen'rous Heart!)
 And act the Monarch, not the Gamester's Part.
Gamester and *Duellist*! what envied Names!
 Yet these, for public Good, he all disclaims.
 Oh! how can such rare Merit be withstood!
 Who promises, on Honour, will be good.
 Elect this Son of Mars, for Arms renown'd,
 Unless some *worthier* Candidate be found.

His Rival view! of Temper calm, serene;
 Artless Good-nature in his Face is seen:
 O'er one gay Province hath he justly reign'd,
 His Conduct fair, his Character unstain'd.
 But stop!—some Politician haws and hums,—
 Then gravely cries, "This Man from *Bristol* comes!
 Shall hackney'd Calumny defile my Pen?
 "*Bristol* ne'er breeds polite or honest Men."
 Aspersions vile! be buried in the Grave,
 Or the dark Soul of some malicious Knave.
 Think not this Man of Courage unpossess'd,
 Because with decent Moderation blest.
 Courage and Moderation well agree;
 From real Courage Bravoes may be free.

What! tho' the Roscius of our English Stage,
 Fam'd DAVID, fume with all *Goliath's* Rage;
 He wraps himself in his own Virtue warm,
 And scorns th' Attack of rash, ill-manner'd O—
 Life's social Virtues dwell in PLOMER's Heart;
 Your Smiles to him, ye *British* Fair, impart!
 Brave *Albion's* Sons! your Votes united bring,
 And greet good PLOMER, "Hail, of BATH the KING!"

But if dire Party Rage abhors to yield,
 Unless these Heroes quit the doubtful Field,
 By common Suffrage let a THIRD be nam'd,
 For Spirit, Honour, and Politeness fam'd;
 Stranger to Tricks, and all the Gambling Trade;
 If such you want, behold the Man in WADE.

Thus sanguine Wrath, and Envy pale will cease,
 Beauty will wear the Smiles of Joy and Peace;
 Justice and Harmony revive again,
 And thrive, as once they did, in good King NASH's Reign.

Christopher Inn, Bath, April 6, 1769.

W. W.

A Continuation of the Correspondence between
 Mr. BRERETON and Mr. PLOMER.

Copy of a Letter to Mr. PLOMER.

SIR,

IT has been recommended to me by the Mayor
 and acting Justices of the Corporation of Bath,
 to make you the following Proposal, viz.

That the Determination of the Dispute between
 us shall be left to the first five Noblemen and Gen-
 tlemen named in the List presented to you last
 Night, should you reject this Proposal, as you have
 every other which tends to restore the Peace and
 Pleasures of the Society, let the Publick judge *whi-*
ther it is your Cause or mine, that trusts for its
 Support to Injustice and Violence.

I am, Sir, your most humble Servant,

An Answer in Writing W. BRERETON.
is deferred immediately.

TO MR. BRERETON.

SIR,

I Have been assured that the Majority of the Noblemen and Gentlemen, you have been pleased to mention at the Foot of your Proposals last Night, have declared that it was without their Knowledge they were mentioned, and that they now totally decline interfering in this Dispute. The Mayor has provided for the Peace and good Order of the Ball Tomorrow Night, which I think it incumbent upon me to comply with, as I will with every Measure that can tend to restore Unanimity and Peace to this Community, consistent with my former Declarations.

I cannot but be surprized that you should so unjustly charge me with destroying the "*Peace and Pleasures*" of this Society, when I have so frequently declared myself ready to sacrifice all my Pretensions for the Preservation of both.

I am, Sir, your most humble Servant,

Bath, April 6, 1769, 11 o'Clock.

R. H. PLOMER.

A LOW SONG *upon a* HIGH SUBJECT.

IN Bath Town-Hall, instead of May'r-a,
 I See the unembarras'd C—-a;
 Friend to both Sides take the Chair-a. *Doodle doodle do.*
 What cou'd this Croud together bring-a?
 The Business was no trifling thing-a,
 No less than to elect a King-a. *Doodle, &c.*
 Two Candidates strove for the Crown-a,
 Men of quite different Renown-a,
 Which made a Bustle in the Town-a. *Doodle, &c.*
 The Sc—sh Men beyond the Tweed-a,
 All with the Y—sh had agreed-a,
 In Bladud's Realm to take the Lead-a. *Doodle, &c.*

THE BATH CONTEST.

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A mighty Clan then from the North-a,
With *White* and *Black B—s* illu'd forth-a,
All Men of *Valour* and of *Worth-a*.

Doodle, &c.

Knights, Squires, and Lords, and Ladies fair-a,
To Gyde's Assembly-room repair-a,
An Irish Sov'reign to declare-a.

Doodle, &c.

To keep th' Advantage they had got-a,
They steal a March on Johnny Trott-a;
Ah! *subtle* Teague! and *crafty* Scot-a!

Doodle, &c.

Alas! poor England! 'tis thy Chance-a,
To pay the *Pipe* while others dance-a;
Dupe to all Lands, as well as France-a.

Doodle, &c.

Then in there came a Knight so warm-a,
Supported by the cream-fac'd O***-a,
Who swore they'd take the Town by Storm-a.

Doodle, &c.

But J***s, who did not like the Jest-a,
Advanc'd, and made a bold Protest-a,
Leaving to Chamberlain the rest-a.

Doodle, &c.

It was not fair, I do insist-a,
To give poor Shenkin such a Lift-a,
Of many a Lord's and Lady's Fist-a;

Doodle, &c.

Then leave the British King elect-a,
'Midst R—pp—ce and gambling Sect-a,
To be both laugh'd at, and reject-a,

Doodle, &c.

Mean while the E—st Spirit rous'd-a,
No longer to be gull'd and chous'd-a,
An honest Cause they all espous'd-a;

Doodle, &c.

Resolving not to quit the Field-a,
Nor to an arch Usurper yield-a,
They to a fairer Choice appeal'd-a.

Doodle, &c.

A Book was made to take the Poll-a,
The Candidates plac'd Cheek by Jowl-a,
All fair and 'bove Board, on my Soul-a.

Doodle, &c.

But Br—e—n, who got the Start-a,
Declar'd he did not care a F—g-a,
He with his Pow'r wou'd never part-a.

Doodle, &c.

Now might you see a wondrous Sight-a,
A Crowd of Englishmen unite-a,
To do *Themselves* and *Country* right-a.

Doodle, &c.

The Time elaps'd, the Books they close-a,
 Declaring *Plomer* duly chose-a,
 Which was a Balsam to his N—e-a. *Doodle, &c.*

Then Anger, Wrath, and Party Zeal-a,
 Loud bawling for the public Weal-a,
 Made Laws and Government to reel-a. *Doodle, &c.*

To heal the Difference, what Hope-a!
 While one Side talks of Nose and Soap-a,
 And t'other threatens with a Rope-a. *Doodle, &c.*

But whatfoe'er the Issue be-a,
 The selfish Neutrals all agree-a,
 Shou'd henceforth be thought Nobody-a. *Doodle, &c.*

Then, honest E—sh! do not flinch-a,
 Nor to their Blust'ring yield an Inch-a,
 You soon will see the gall'd Horse wince-a. *Doodle, &c.*

WHEREAS a Report hath prevailed, that I have entered into a private Treaty with Mr. *Plomer* for his Interest, and as this Report may injure me in the good Opinion of the Company: As it is injurious to my Reputation, and contradicts my first Declaration of relying entirely upon the general Sense of the Subscribers, I hope I may be allowed, in the *most solemn Manner*, to assure the Public, that I never have, nor ever will enter into any private Treaty with either Party.

April 7, 1769.

WILLIAM WADE.

BATH, April 8, 1769.

A BALL for Mr. *PLOMER*, Master of the Ceremonies, on Monday the 10th Instant, at Mr. *Simpson's Room*, when Mr. *Plomer* humbly hopes the Nobility and Gentry will honour him with their Company.

The HOT-BED's Advice to a certain GARDENER.

THO' you to rival me presume,
 Are warm, and hot, and love to fumè;
 The Heat's no deeper than the Skin,
 You're cool, nay very cool, *within*:
 The Fruit too of my Smoak and Stir,
 Is but the poor cold Cucumber;
 And tho' to some Advantage shewn,
 Our Composition well is known,
 Made up of Dung, and Dirt, and Mire,
 Tho' full of Smoak, we boast no Fire;
 Then let us shun the public Jest,
 We are but *Dunghills* at the best.
 Be quiet, Brother, wisely think,
The more we stir, the more we sink.

BATH, April 10, 1769.

MR. PLOMER, being refused the Rooms and
 Music for his intended Ball, is under a
 Necessity of making this Apology to the Nobility
 and Gentry who intended to have honoured him
 with their Company this Evening.

April 10, 1769.

THE BALL for MR. CHARLES JONES, will be
 at Mr. Gyde's Room on Thursday next, the
 13th Instant.

*An OLD PROPHECY, in Gothic Characters, found upon
 a Stone in the Rubbish of the New Buildings, April
 the First.*

IN the same Year when Six and Nine,
 To One and Seven their Forces join;
 When Priests, who preach and pray for Peace,
 With Rancour fell the Feuds increase;

And tho' they combat, play the Devil,
 That Good may rise from Rev'rend Evil:
 When *Bristol Smugglers* shall invade
 Their Neighbour's Rights, and hurt fair Trade;
 When Money gives an unknown Crew
 To judge of what they never knew,
 To prate and vote for Men and Measures,
 And chuse a Master for our Pleasure:
 Then shall the Realm be topsy turvy,
 And those *command*, who ought to *serve* ye;
Order and Decency retreat,
 For *Anarchy* shall fill the Street,
 Shall all her hellish Uproar bring,
 E'en to the Palace of the King.

M E R L I N, junr:

BATH, April 11; 1769.

A Desire of Accommodation having Yesterday been exprest by some of Mr. BRERETON'S Friends, in Order to put an End to the present Contest, the following were delivered at Three o'Clock by Mr. PLOMER.

Mr. PLOMER proposes, by the Advice of his Friends,

THAT he shall resign his Pretensions;

THAT Mr. *Brereton* shall resign his also;

THAT Mr. WADE, as generally approved, by both Parties, shall be recommended to the Company as a proper Person to be Master of the Ceremonies;

THAT the Surplus of the Subscription-Money shall be divided between Mr. *Brereton* and Mr. *Plomer*, if agreeable to the Subscribers;

THAT Mr. *Brereton* and Mr. *Plomer* shall each of them have a Ball;

THAT

THE BATH CONTEST.

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THAT if Mr. WADE is approved of by the Company, he shall engage to officiate *gratis* at a Ball for the Benefit of Mrs. Brereton and her Family yearly, during his Continuance in that Office.

An Answer in Writing is requested by Seven o'Clock this Evening.

BATH; April 10, 1769.

THE above Proposals Mr. Brereton returned at Eight o'Clock in the Evening with this verbal Answer: "By Advice of my Friends this is the only Answer I can give."

N. B. A Meeting of Mr. Plomer's Friends is desired at Twelve o'Clock at the *Town-Hall*.

To D**** G*****, Esq.

GREAT Master of the Scenic Art,
What sink into a Party-Tool?

Play, as at Home, the Hero's Part,
Don't come to BATH to play the Fool.

To the S A M E.

G****K, with Emphasis and Pause,
Repeats the pretty Lines he writ;
Without this Aid, the Critic's Laws
Deny them Harmony or Wit.

Leave Writing, D—d, be advis'd,
Before the Public Ear is tir'd;

Let others write, and be despis'd,
Let G——h speak, and be admir'd.

The TRIUMVIRATE.

W**B would be handsome, we admit,
If his Eye sparkled like his Wit;

Nor would we, G——h, thee decry,
If thy Wit sparkled like thine Eye.

W****, how hard a Fate is thine,
With neither Eye nor Wit to shine!

CONGRATULATORY COMPLIMENTS.

O H! for a Muse of *Smoke!* from *Hot-Bed* fierce
Reeking, or Dunghill vile, then would I sing
Our Monarch like himself —

But, alas! I must be content in humble Prose to congratulate my Fellow-Subjects upon our present Harmony, good Humour, and Politeness. That Peace, which we could never have hoped for from the matchless *Legs and Impudence*, that beats all *Understanding*, or from the *Courage* of the *Gentleman*, who took the *whole Company by the Nose*; neither from the placid Countenance of our Bristol Candidate, nor from his somewhat too temperate Friends, is now confirmed to us, and to our Posterity, *undoubtedly for ever*, by the *simple*, I mean the *single*, Declaration of one of the Room-Keepers,—"I will
"acknowledge no Master but Mr. B——N; to no
"other will I open my Rooms." How just this Declaration! The Rooms, *to be sure*, are Mr. *****'s. The Subscribers are mere Tenants at Will, and may be turned out at the Pleasure of their Landlord at a Moment's Warning; then how modest, by this Declaration, and in very Fact, does he contradict a Number of Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen, who *still presume* to think that 267 are more than 253. Did he not probably learn both his Modesty and his Arithmetic in the *same Country*? But that generous Disregard to his own Interest, and his Contempt of a Danger, which his Sagacity must have certainly foreseen, that these rich Folks of Bristol, particularly those of a certain Trade so terrible (whether by Instinct or the Malady of his Country) to our Monarch, may build a Dancing-Room that will effectually ruin the lower Town of Bath.

However,

However, though Riches, I mean those in their own Pockets, are not always among the Nationalities of his Patrons, yet if he should ever be distressed, *Our O——e shall mount the Rostrum in his Favour,* and his *Lady*, in Proof of her Nobility, shall open his Balls. Their Children too, who certainly were born in Wedlock, shall wonder at their Mother's Courage and their Father's Eloquence.

Vivat Rex, Long Live King B——n.

To D—— G——.

In Answer to the Verses entitled, An OLD PROPHECY, and signed MERLIN.

WHY art thou, DAVID, so uncivil,
To give the Clergy to the Devil;

For, if we give the Devil his Due,
Pray, DAVID, what becomes of You?

Old Nick, and all his dirty Factors,
Pimps, Gamblers, Vagabonds, and Actors,
We do renounce, with all their Works,
Or should we better be than Turks?

Therefore, good Majesty of Drury,
Abate a little of thy Fury;

Ape not the Man of Wit and Letters,
Nor pertly dictate to thy Betters.

To the SAME.

FROM Gothic Rubbish of thy Brain,
King David, were thy Verses ta'en;

Frigid thy Wit! and poor thy Spite!

Why wilt thou, little David, write?

To D I T T O.

MOCK Monarch of the mimic Scene!

'Gainst Priests why all this Fury?

Unseemly 'tis to strut, I ween,

As in thy Realm of Drury.

Thou, who the Public's Servant art,

Nay Slave to Porter's Pleasures;

At Bath how dar'st Thou act a Part,

Or prate of Men and Measures.

*The Humble PETITION of the YOUNG LADIES,
married or single, to Mr. G——R,*

S H E W E T H,

THAT whereas you have this Morning at the *Pump-Room* made it your Business to apply to all those Ladies whose Health or Inclinations prevented their Dancing Minuets,—That as soon as any beautiful Girl should be taken out by a noble Peer to dance a Minuet, that they should get up and walk about the Room, to interrupt their Dancing, and disgust the Company, and thereby prevent the Pleasure we have of seeing and being seen, admiring our own Actions, and wishing to please in the Eyes of others. We hope you will not oblige us to pull the Caps of the Old, as you are so fearful yourself of engaging in Quarrels with your own Sex: Whatever you do, we hope you will let us dance, and keep in your own Sphere; you have hobbled a Minuet round the Room after the Gout, and we wish to see you do so again; and if your Candidate would do so too, we won't abuse him, as we all endeavour to do our best. Therefore if you wish to avoid giving an Affront to good Manners, acknowledge you sometimes do commit Rudeness, and ought to think before you speak: Consider, and let us have our Minuets, and indulge our favourite Diversion.

Tuesday, April 11, 1769.

QUESTIONS which require an immediate Answer.

WHETHER the Eyes of every Man of every Nation now in Bath are not open to see, that *St. Patrick* is the Cause of all the present Disturbances in the Company, tho' some Englishmen have been incautiously drawn in to countenance the Execution? Whether

Whether in any Cause between any two Nations, more Injustice, more Violence, or more Inhumanity, was shewn to establish a *k***** to the Prejudice of an Honest Man, who has a fair customary Right?

Whether the Inhabitants of any City on Earth ever received so public an Insult, so outrageous an Affront, or so cruel an Indignity, under the Protection of any M-g-t-cy authorised to preserve Order, and execute Justice?

Whether any Man ever saw Charity demanded by a Race of Beggars in Jewels of Gold, Jewels of Silver, Embroidery, and Velvets, till he enter'd the City of Bath?

Whether any Man ever read of a public Indignity, and Refusal of Justice, offered to a List of Names equally respectable with that published by Mr. Plomer?

Whether *St. Patrick's* Gang can from henceforth see an Englishman in the City of Bath without laughing in his Face? — Or the Reverse without despising him?

Whether the Laws of our wise Ancestors, which prohibit every ****sman* from landing in ENGLAND, or settling in any City without Security for their good Behaviour, ought not to be enforced with a Rigour equal to those enacted against the *Jesuits*, who are the common Disturbers and most arbitrary Villains on the Face of the Globe?

Whether it be not high Time for *St. George* to break his Launce, and hide his Face, if he cannot protect our *Wives* and our *Children* from the Insults of *St. Patrick*, in the politest Assembly in EUROPE?

Whether the Lords and Commons of *England*, and the Gentlemen of the populous and opulent County of *Somerset*, will tamely sit still and behold so daring an Insult offered to their Countrymen who engaged originally in Defence of their *Public Expulsion*, without resenting the Injustice in the Autumn Season?

Lastly: Let it be seen if there are now in Bath, Ladies so mean, so contemptible, so devoid of all Feeling and Resentment, as to accept the Hand of that Man to lead her to a Minuet, who has thus audaciously encroached on every Decorum due to Society? If there are, may the God of Heaven and Earth reward them accordingly.

BATH, April 11, 1769.

THE Gentlemen met at the *Town-Hall*, in the Interest of Mr. PLOMER, do publicly testify their Disapprobation, and disavow a certain printed Hand-Bill, intitled, *Questions which require an immediate Answer*, and do declare, That it was not wrote or published by or with their Knowledge.

BATH, April 12, 1769.

WHEREAS the Person lately stiling himself MAJOR ***** (and now calling himself Master of the Ceremonies of this Place) and his *Adherents*, have repeatedly rejected the reasonable and advantageous Terms of Accommodation that have been offered for the Benefit of him and his Family, on the Part of Mr. *Plomer* and his Friends; and after amusing the Public with fallacious Professions of Peace, have displayed their real Intentions of maintaining him in his assumed Office, *Vi et Armis*, (and the extraordinary Declaration made by the said ***** this Morning, That as long as he lived no other Man should be Master of the Ceremonies here) by the insolent and outrageous Violences some of his Partizans committed last Night, it is the determined Resolution of the Gentlemen in Mr. *Plomer's* Interest, to enter into NO future Treaty with the said *****; as it is now apparent, that the Peace of this Place can never be established upon a solid Basis, whilst he continues his Pretensions to the Office of Master of the Ceremonies, which has been so violently assumed: And they are therefore determined to exert themselves to the utmost, to prevent the said ***** any longer disturbing the Peace of this Place; and it is not doubted, but that the *candid* and *moderate* of the said *****'s Party, (as it has constantly been the View of ALL who have supported Mr. *Plomer*) will concur with the Rest of the Company, in any fair and practicable Plan for terminating the unhappy Disputes which have so long subsisted; and that they, and the whole Community, will see the Propriety of these Resolutions.

✍ A general Meeting of all the Gentlemen in the
the

the Interest of Mr. PLOMER, and such other Subscribers who wish to see a speedy End to the present Disturbances, is requested at the Town-Hall To-morrow, being Thursday, at One o'Clock.

From *The BATH and BRISTOL CHRONICLE*.

April 13, 1769.

NEVER was such a Scene of Anarchy and Confusion remembered in this City, as happened on *Tuesday* Night last at one of the public Rooms; when the Friends of Mr. *Brereton* and Mr. *Plomer* met mutually to support their Choice of each of the above Gentlemen as *Master of the Ceremonies*.

A written Paper was produced by a Gentleman in the Interest of Mr. *Plomer*, which he requested to be permitted to read*; but a Hiss of Disapprobation from the other Party ensuing, a general Confusion of course followed.—Scandalous Epithets, and Blows, were the Consequence; and the Mayor was sent for to appease the tumult; who attended with proper Officers, and the Riot-Act was read three Times by the Town-Clerk.

* The following is what was to have been publicly declared to the Company last *Tuesday* Night's Ball, when the Gentleman who was deputed by the Friends of Mr. PLOMER to make it, was interrupted and assaulted by Mr. N—, Mr. O—, and Mr. H—.

“LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

“I am *authorised* to declare to you that Mr. PLOMER has been
“duly and fairly elected Master of the Ceremonies of this
“Assembly; and in the Name of 267 Lords, Ladies, and
“Gentlemen, who have elected him, to *protest* against any o-
“ther Person whatsoever who shall presume, by Violence or
“otherwise, to act as Master of the Ceremonies.”

The

The Sense of the NEUTRAL GENTLEMEN.

THEY think if the present Commotions are not speedily concluded, Mr. NASH's Prophecy will be fully verified.—They are unanimous in condemning the national Distinctions which have been made Use of, and deem them scandalous and illiberal.—They hear, with infinite Concern, a Resolution to form a new Room upon some exclusive Conditions: The Minute they take place, will be the period of the Amusements at Bath, which nothing can support but general Concurrence.—They think whoever were the means of persuading the Ladies to go to the Rooms on Tuesday Night, have been guilty of an Indiscretion never to be atoned for.—They are impatient for a Reconciliation of the Parties, which cannot be effected by caviling, “which is most to blame,” but by each taking Blame to itself.—They are satisfied neither of the present Candidates can enjoy the Office they contend for, therefore earnestly wish for Capt. Wade.

THE Result of the Meeting of the Gentlemen in Mr. PLOMER's Interest, and of the Subscribers in general, held at the *Town-Hall* this Day, was, “That a Committee of Twelve Gentlemen be appointed by Mr. Brereton's and Mr. Plomer's Friends, who are to depute a Chairman, and meet To-Morrow, in order to fix on a Gentleman to act as *Master of the Ceremonies* in this City:”—And as it was almost the unanimous Wish of the Meeting, (*for the Sake of future Peace and Harmony*) that Mr. WADE should be settled in that Office; there does not remain even a Doubt but that HE will be the REIGNING MONARCH.

Thursday Evening, April 13.



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